

**PATENT****IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**APPLICANTS:** Kitchloo et al. **EXAMINER:** D. Hamlin  
**SERIAL NO.:** 09/547,088 **GROUP ART UNIT:** 1751  
**FILED:** April 11, 2000 **DOCKET:** 100-9  
**FOR:** INFUSION OF DYE USING A PLASTICIZER

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.111**

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action mailed August 30, 2001, please amend this application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claims 1-16, without prejudice.

Please add the following new claims:

17. (New) A method of infusing a dye into a surface of a plastic material having a solubility parameter  $\delta_p$ , comprising the steps of:

dissolving a dye and a plasticizer into an aggressive solvent having a solubility parameter  $\delta_s$  near  $\delta_p$  to form a solution; and  
contacting the surface of the plastic with the solution.

18. (New) The method of claim 17, wherein the plastic material comprises a plastic matrix and the dissolved plasticizer in the solution induces local surface mobility within the plastic matrix.

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